Appl. No. 10/676,411 Amdt. Dated June 7, 2007

Reply to Final Office Action of March 7, 2007

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

1. (previously presented) A method comprising:

forming a resist including a baseline material added by a highly absorbing material selected from fluorine (F), tin (Sn), bismuth (Bi), cesium (Cs), antimony (Sb), a fluoropolymer, a metallocence polymer, an alkoxide chelate polymer, and a carboxylate chelate polymer;

thinning the resist to a pre-determined thickness used as an imaging layer; and improving efficiency of a photoactive acid generator (PAG) to capture secondary electrons produced by an ionizing radiation in the resist.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein forming the resist comprises:

forming the resist using the baseline material being polyhydroxystyrene.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein forming the resist comprises:

adding a percentage in volume at least one of the fluorine (F), tin (Sn), bismuth (Bi), cesium (Cs), and antimony (Sb) into the baseline material, the percentage ranging from 10% to 20%.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein forming the resist comprises:

adding a percentage in volume at least one of the fluoropolymer, the metallocence polymer, the alkoxide chelate polymer, and the carboxylate chelate polymer, the percentage ranging from 10% to 20%.

- 5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein thinning comprises: thinning the resist to a thickness below 100 nm.
- 6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein improving comprises:

Docket No: 042390.P16691 Page 2 of 19 TVN/ETK/tn

increasing a PAG concentration in the resist.

- 7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein improving comprises: controlling moieties proximal to a cleavable bond in the PAG.
- (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
  exposing the resist with a radiation being one of an extreme ultraviolet (EUV), X-ray,
  electron beam, and ion beam.
  - 9. (previously presented) A method comprising:

forming an imaging layer from a resist made of a baseline material added by a highly absorbing material selected from fluorine (F), tin (Sn), bismuth (Bi), cesium (Cs), antimony (Sb), a fluoropolymer, a metallocence polymer, an alkoxide chelate polymer, and a carboxylate chelate polymer, the layer being thinned to a pre-determined thickness, the layer having improved efficiency of a photoactive acid generator (PAG) to capture secondary electrons produced by an ionizing radiation; and

forming an etch resistant layer below the imaging layer for pattern transfer from the imaging layer.

- 10. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the baseline material is polyhydroxystyrene.
- 11. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein forming the imaging layer comprises:

adding to the baseline material by a percentage in volume at least one of the fluorine (F), tin (Sn), bismuth (Bi), cesium (Cs), and antimony (Sb), the percentage ranging from 10% to 20%.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein forming the imaging layer comprises adding to the baseline material by a percentage in volume at least one of the fluoropolymer, the metallocence polymer, the alkoxide chelate polymer, and the carboxylate chelate polymer, the percentage ranging from 10% to 20%.

Docket No: 042390.P16691 Page 3 of 19 TVN/ETK/tn

- 13. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the thickness is below 100 nm.
- 14. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the imaging layer has an increased PAG concentration.
- 15. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the imaging layer has controlled moieties proximal to a cleavable bond in the PAG.
- 16. (original) The method of claim 11 further comprising: exposing the imaging layer to a radiation being one of an extreme ultraviolet (EUV), X-ray, electron beam, and ion beam.
  - 17. (previously presented) A device comprising:

an imaging layer made of a baseline material added by a highly absorbing material selected from fluorine (F), tin (Sn), bismuth (Bi), cesium (Cs), antimony (Sb), a fluoropolymer, a metallocence polymer, an alkoxide chelate polymer, and a carboxylate chelate polymer, the layer being thinned to a pre-determined thickness, the layer having improved efficiency of a photoactive acid generator (PAG) to capture secondary electrons produced by an ionizing radiation; and

an etch resistant layer below the imaging layer for pattern transfer from the imaging layer.

- 18. (previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the baseline material is polyhydroxystyrene.
- 19. (previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the imaging layer comprises:

a percentage in volume of at least one of the fluorine (F), tin (Sn), bismuth (Bi), cesium (Cs), and antimony (Sb), the percentage ranging from 10% to 20%.

20. (previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the imaging layer comprises a percentage in volume of at least one of a fluoropolymer, a metallocence polymer, an

Docket No: 042390.P16691 Page 4 of 19 TVN/ETK/tn

Appl. No. 10/676,411 Amdt. Dated June 7, 2007 Reply to Final Office Action of March 7, 2007

alkoxide chelate polymer, and a carboxylate chelate polymer, the percentage ranging from 10% to 20%.

- 21. (original) The device of claim 11 wherein the thickness is below 100 nm.
- 22. (original) The device of claim 11 wherein the imaging layer has an increased PAG concentration.
- 23. (original) The device of claim 11 wherein the imaging layer has controlled moieties proximal to a cleavable bond in the PAG.
- 24. (original) The device of claim 18 wherein the imaging layer is exposed with the radiation being one of an extreme ultraviolet (EUV), X-ray, electron beam, and ion beam.
- 25. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the thickness is balanced with dosage of radiation exposure to have an overall transmission of approximately 50%.
- 26. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the thickness is balanced with dosage of radiation exposure to have an overall transmission of approximately 50%.
- 27. (previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the thickness is balanced with dosage of radiation exposure to have an overall transmission of approximately 50%.